(c) Use of natural gas is destermmed by the need to optimise its use, given the variety of uses to which gas can be put and the alternatives available to gas for such uses.

Setting up a centre for development for electricity Co-operatives

2404. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set rp a centre for development of electricity co-operatives ; and

(b) if so, what is the main purpose of setting up such co-operatives ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Kerosene in West Bengal

2405. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand of kerosene in West Bengal during the period Jan.'89 to June '89 monthwise :

(b) what is the total centi allocation and actual supply to tl State ; and

(c) what are the reasons for th acute crisis of kerosene in the Stat<

THE MINISTER OF STAT OF THE MINISTRY OF PE1 ROLEUMAND NATURAL GA; (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) to (c The Kerosene requirements of State and UTs including West Benga are assessed by allowing suitab] growth rate over the allocation mad in the corresponding period of th previous year, and allocations are made accordingly. Besides tn regular allocation adhoc release are also given to meet specific situa tions like floods, drought, shortagi of LPG, etc.

2. Allocation of kerosene tc West Bengal from January to June. 1989 has been made in accordance with th© above policy. The State Government had requested foi enhancement of State's allocation. This was considered and keeping in view the availability of product, a quantity of 1000 *tonnes* each for March and June, 1989 was allocated.

3. The details of the allocation and supplies of SKO made to West Bengal during January to June, 1989 are given below ;—

(Figures in tonnes)

Month	Regular allocation	Adhoc allocation	Total allocation	Releases
Jan. 89 ...	58900	.,	58900	59394
Feb. 89	58900		58900	59068
March 89 .	56460	1000	57460	58070
April 89 ...	56460	.	56460	56835
May 89 ...	56460	..	56460	56980
		1000	57460	Not available.